

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Wikdahl

Art Unit: Unassigned

Application No. Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: February 11, 2002

For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR THE
PRODUCTION OF CELLULOSE PULPS
OF IMPROVED QUALITY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Prior to the heading "Technical Field of the Invention," please insert the following sub-section:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This patent application is a divisional of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/600,109, filed July 11, 2000, which is the U.S. national phase of PCT International Application No. PCT/SE99/00079, filed January 20, 1999.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-32 are canceled, and new claim 33 is added as follows:

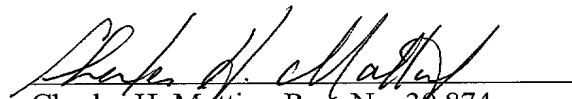
33. (New) An apparatus for processing cellulose pulps comprising in combination: a first refiner stage R1, R2 for preparing a pulp suspension, a screening stage S for separating shives from said pulp suspension, a first hydrocyclone stage C1, C2 including at least one hydrocyclone for separating fibers with low bonding ability from the pulp suspension, a second hydrocyclone stage D1, D2, D3 including at least one hydrocyclone for separating contaminants of high specific weight from the pulp suspension, and a second refiner stage RR for treating accepts from the second hydrocyclone stage and from the screening stage S.

REMARKS

The pending claim (i.e., claim 33) represents a claim that was canceled in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/600,109 (which is the "parent" application of the instant divisional application) as drawn to a nonelected invention in response to a restriction requirement in that parent application.

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS MADE VIA PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

33. (New) An apparatus for processing cellulose pulps comprising in combination: a first refiner stage R1, R2 for preparing a pulp suspension, a screening stage S for separating shives from said pulp suspension, a first hydrocyclone stage C1, C2 including at least one hydrocyclone for separating fibers with low bonding ability from the pulp suspension, a second hydrocyclone stage D1, D2, D3 including at least one hydrocyclone for separating contaminants of high specific weight from the pulp suspension, and a second refiner stage RR for treating accepts from the second hydrocyclone stage and from the screening stage S.

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PENDING CLAIMS AFTER ENTRY OF PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

33. An apparatus for processing cellulose pulps comprising in combination: a first refiner stage R1, R2 for preparing a pulp suspension, a screening stage S for separating shives from said pulp suspension, a first hydrocyclone stage C1, C2 including at least one hydrocyclone for separating fibers with low bonding ability from the pulp suspension, a second hydrocyclone stage D1, D2, D3 including at least one hydrocyclone for separating contaminants of high specific weight from the pulp suspension, and a second refiner stage RR for treating accepts from the second hydrocyclone stage and from the screening stage S.